

COOPERATIVE MEASURES FOR HEMISPHERE DEFENSE

Exchange of notes at Bogotá September 23 and 30, 1942
Entered into force September 30, 1942
Obsolete

1942 For. Rel. (VI) 167

The American Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Relations

No. 96

BOGOTÁ, September 23, 1942

EXCELLENCY:

Under instructions of my Government, I have the honor to confirm to Your Excellency that for the purpose of attaining the maximum efficiency of cooperative measures between the Governments of Colombia and of the United States of America in matters of hemisphere defense, protection of Colombian, United States, and friendly shipping in the Caribbean Sea, and the security of the Panama Canal, the Caribbean Defense Command considers it necessary to be able to rely, in Cartagena, on emergency fueling services and repair facilities for airplanes and seaplanes of the Army and the Navy of the United States. With the same objectives and in order to obtain these facilities without loss of time for United States planes, my Government has had the honor to request that while the necessary installations are being completed, Your Excellency's Government permit that tenders for seaplanes of the United States Navy may enter Cartagena and remain in that port for such period of time as may be indispensable to effect the necessary refueling.

In accordance with the conversations which I have had the honor to have with Your Excellency, the Government of Colombia has granted permission to organize these emergency services with the assignment of the necessary personnel for the proper protection of the airplanes and pertinent installations. The cost of these services will be at the expense of the United States, the number and category of personnel to be determined in agreement between the two governments.

My Government will also defray the expense of repairing the ramp for seaplanes of the Base of Cartagena, if the Government of Colombia agrees that

it may be occasionally used, when it may be necessary to beach its airplanes to overhaul or repair them.

In order that movements in pursuit of enemy ships or airplanes may be more rapid and efficient, my Government also requests that the naval and aerial forces of the United States under the Commanding Officer of the Caribbean Defense Command be permitted to enter Colombian territorial waters and fly over Colombian territory without prior special authority, it being understood that the Caribbean Defense Command will immediately give notification of such action to the liaison officer of the Colombian Army stationed at the Headquarters of the Command.

If Your Excellency is favorably disposed, General Andrews, Commanding Officer of the Caribbean Defense Command, or his deputy, will be pleased to arrange with the military and naval authorities of Colombia the specific details, in order to carry out the arrangements mentioned above.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

ARTHUR BLISS LANE

His Excellency

Señor Doctor DARÍO ECHANDÍA,

Minister of Foreign Relations of Colombia.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Ambassador

[TRANSLATION]

No. S-1025

BOGOTÁ, *September 30, 1942*

MR. AMBASSADOR:

I have the honor to refer to Your Excellency's kind note No. 96 of the 23rd of the present month, in which, following the instructions of your Government, there were requested, in development of the conversations which had taken place for the purpose of giving a maximum efficiency to the joint measures of cooperation between our Governments for the defense of the hemisphere, the protection of the navigation of the shipping of Colombia, the United States, and friendly nations, and the security of the Panama Canal, certain facilities for the naval and aerial forces under the command of the Chief of the Caribbean Defense Command.

After carefully studying the measures which the Government of Your Excellency proposes, my Government finds that it can cooperate in developing them in accordance with the pacts of continental solidarity, and particularly the Resolution XV of La Habana,¹ approved by Law 20 of

¹ Resolution approved July 30, 1940, at the Second Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the American Republics. For text, see *Department of State Bulletin*, Aug. 24, 1940, p. 136.

1941 and Decree 2261 of the 22nd of December of the same year, by means of which Colombia recognized the non-belligerent character of the American countries at war. In consequence, I have the pleasure of communicating to Your Excellency that as a contribution to continental defense and as a demonstration of friendship and of cooperation, my Government gladly grants to that of the United States of America the facilities requested under the terms specified by Your Excellency.

It will be very agreeable to the Colombian military and naval authorities to enter into communication with General Andrews, Chief of the Caribbean Defense Command, for the purpose of working out the details relative to the realization of the points mentioned above.

I avail myself of this opportunity to repeat to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

DARÍO ECHANDÍA